

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1907.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second

Subscriptions by Mati, Postpaid DAILY, Per Month DAILY: Per Year SUNDAY, Per Year DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month ..... Postage to foreign countries added.

Published by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York, President and Treasurer of the Association, William M. Laffan, 170 Nassau street: Secretary of the Association, Franklin Bartlett, 5 Nassau street.

Paris office, 32 Rue Louis le Grand. The daily and Sunday editions are on sale at Klosque 12, near the Grand Hotel: Kiosque 77, Boulevard des Capucines, corner Place de l'Opéra, and Kiosque 19, Boulevard des Italiens, corner Rue Louis le Grand,

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## The Southern Predicament, So Far.

Senator Bacon of Georgia has put the Southern Democratic situation in a few words, but with perfect accuracy and clearness. He says that the Democrats in his section will welcome and enthusiastically support a Presidential candidate taken from beyond Mason and Dixon's line, but that in order to effect such a nomination it will be necessary to present the name of some individual who not only possesses the necessary qualifications but is willing to declare himself as an aspirant.

This is an exact and truthful statement of the facts. Our own inquiries, enlightened by a capable investigator of local sentiment and a careful study of the better class of Southern newspapers, have satisfied us that political feeling throughout the South is strongly averse to a repetition of the blunders of 1896 and 1900. Intelligent men everywhere are now convinced that the Democracy's only hope of success lies in a repudiation of the socialistic and incendiary doctrines of the last twelve years and a sharp and permanent divorce from the alliances and affiliations which heretofore have brought them not only defeat but self-reproach. And, so persuaded, what is more natural than the growing tendency to look for a candidate among their own leaders, among men whom they know to be strong, clean, worthy and courageous, free of all those dangerous fallacies which have led them so often and so far astray?

What the Georgia Senator has said will bear the sharpest criticism. It is true that all thoughtful and influential Southern Democrats would be glad to find a standard bearer for 1908 among their own number. It is equally true that they cannot be expected to take serious action without some assurance that it will be affirmed by the object of their preference. To break the silence of forty years, to shrow off the yoke of a convention sanctioned by more than a generation of unquestioning observthe less binding because it was never justified either in equity or morals—these are achievements virtually impossible in the absence of some inspiring initiative. Long inured to subserviency, trained to patient acceptance of the inferior position, accustomed to sit below the salt at meals and to fetch and carry in the game, Southern Democrats have become incapable of fully understanding, much less of stoutly asserting, their title to the higher part. And Senator Bacon speaks with sure knowledge when he predicts that nothing less than a Homeric demonstration will loosen these inglorious bonds.

Is such the predicament of the Southern Democrats? Possessing every quality of leadership, do they faintheartedly refuse to lead? Equipped with valor, brains and steadfastness, are they yet content to serve as common henchmen under mountebanks and weaklings? They have long since wearied of the humiliating servitude; have they no power of rejecting it? Are they like men steeped in some despairing lethargy and sentenced to await a miracle for their emancipation?

# Kaiser and King.

The conference of Emperor WILLIAM II. and of the Czar Nicholas II. at Swinemunde came to an end on August 6. and is to be quickly followed by an interview of King EDWARD VII. with the Emperor Francis Joseph. All reports concur in confirming the conjecture that the former meeting would be concerned principally with the purport of the Anglo-Russian Treaty, and the Russian sovereign is said to have assured his German kinsman that although the agreement contained a clause relating to Persia and the acquirement by Russia of a port on the Persian Gulf it was entirely reconcilable with Germany's desire to construct a railway through the Euphrates Valley to Bagdad. We are also told that NICHOLAS II. expressed a wish to obtain a loan of \$62,500,000 from German bankers and consented to stipulate that the whole of the sum should be expended on warships to be built in Germany. It is not so easy to forecast the purpose and the outcome of the approaching colloquy between King EDWARD and the Hapsburg Kaiser, but here again, by excluding questions which it would be useless to moot, we may be able to indicate the only possible subject of discus-

There have been two surmises as to the aims of the interview, but neither is admissible. Those who believe that the one object of King EDWARD's foreign policy has been for the last two years. and is now, the isolation of Germany have suggested that he may wish to detach Austria-Hungary from the Triple Alliance, or at least to bring about a half-hearted compliance on her part with the conditions of that compact. If the treaty with Germany were about to expire it is possible that one of the passies would listen to criticism of it, the Massachusetts organizations which

but as the Triple Alliance has still many years to run it is scarcely credible that FRANCIS JOSEPH would debate its merits and its burdens with an outsider. Another theory is that King EDWARD would like the Austro-Hungarian sovereign to use his influence at Berlin to bring about a restofation of the former cordial relations between Great Britain and Germany. It may be true that the ties of blood are oftener weaker than those of self-interest, but certainly it would not be dignified for an uncle to admit that he needs anybody's intercession with a nephew. On the face of things, moreover, Germany has more need of Great Britain's good will than has the latter country of Germany's friendship.

Evidently we must look elsewhere for the motive of the coming conference between the British and Austrian monarchs. If we should assume that the request for the meeting now close at hand came, not from London, but from Vienna, we should find it less difficult to divine the incentive. FRANCIS Jo-SEPH, who is now not far from eighty years of age, finds himself in a position of perplexity and anxiety not unlike that occupied by his ancestor CHARLES VI., who had no sons and only one daughter. MARIA THERESA. He desired, it will be ecalled, that she should inherit all the States composing the Hapsburg realm, although these, as a whole, had never before been transmitted to any but heirs male. To that end he procured the assent of Hungary, the Austrian Archduchies and all his other possessions to the so-called Pragmatic Sanction, and spent a large part of his reign in seeking the acknowledgment of his daughter's right of succession by the other European Powers. Nevertheless, his death was quickly succeeded by FREDERICK the Great's invasion of Silesia, and the War of the Austrian Succession, followed as it was by the Seven Years War, plunged Europe in turmoil for almost a quarter of a century.

The death of FRANCIS JOSEPH threatens o have similar consequences. The Cisleithan and the Hungarian kingdoms are held together by nothing but their common respect and affection for their aged ruler, and his destined successor has few if any friends in either realm. The early disintegration then of the ill compacted territories for the moment loval to FRANCIS JOSEPH seems inevitable unless they can be kept united by the pressure of exterior force. It is thus a matter of deep concern to the Hapsburg ruler to obtain from all the great European Powers assurances that no encouragement will be given to the development of a spirit of discord and secession among his subjects; that no stimulus shall be applied to those disruptive forces which are expected to reveal themselves on the demise of the present sovereign. From this point of view pledge of amity from Great Britain would be peculiarly desirable on account of that country's intimate relations with France and Spain and of the moral influence which she would now be able to exert, not only at St. Petersburg,

It is, in a word, the preservation of the prestige of his dynasty and of the territorial integrity of his dominions that lies closest to the heart of the Hapsburg Kaiser, and the furtherance of that end | grownup. ibtless the real motive which has prompted him to court a personal and confidential conference with King ED-

# The Militia in Joint Manceuvres.

Our militia or volunteer reserve, if the citizen soldiery can be so called, has been winning encomiums from the Regular army officers since the Dick law went into effect. After taking notes of the work of the Massachusetts militia, which has been engaged in the defence of Boston harbor as a support to the artillery garrisons, Lieutenant-Colonel Erasmus M. WEAVER, U. S. A., assistant to the chief of artillery, makes this handsome and doubtless veracious acknowledgment of the efficiency of the citizen soldiers:

"The Massachusetts militia, which participated n the exercises, constitutes a finer body of men than can be found anywhere else in the militia of the country. They developed a decided capacity for manning the coast defence fortifications and handling the heavy guns and intricate machinery onnected therewith, which is more than has been displayed by other militia organizations on similar

Colonel WEAVER does not hesitate to say that the coast artillery reserves would "be certain to give an excellent account of themselves in case of a foreign naval war." This unsolicited testimony should be most gratifying to friends of the volunteer soldier, because Colonel WEAVER is a stalwart advocate of the creation of an army reserve, and he did not entirely approve of the Dick law when enacted, maintaining that it did not go far enough in nationalizing the militia. Colonel WEAVER proposed that the Federal Government provide armories and equipment for the militia, and that it should be placed virtually under the orders of the War Department as an army reserve.

The object of the Dick law is to promote the efficiency of the militia. It does not give the Federal Government a quasi control over the militia, such as Colonel WEAVER contended for, but it provides for the standardization of it on Regular army lines as to equipment and training, for inspection and instruction by Regular army officers, and for joint manœuvres, offering the States which cooperate with the national Government a share of an annual Federal appropriation. Some of the States have been slow to take advantage of the opportunities held out to them by the Dick law for various reasons, among them no doubt a reluctance to allow their State guards to be helped by the national Government. But the improvement of the militia when brought into contact and competition with Regulars under the provisions of the law has been so manifest that there ought to be no more hesitation in meeting the Federal Government half way before the time limit set by the act expires in 1908. In New York the Seventh, Thirteenth and other regiments that took part in the defence of the city last June distinguished themselves, we venture to say, as much as

have been "honorably mentioned" by Colonel ERASMUS M. WEAVER.

As a first step in the nationalization of the citizen soldiery the Dick law has been so satisfactory that it may not be necessary to give the Federal Government control of it, as Colonel WEAVER has proposed. The opposition to such a course would be insurmountable in time of peace, and judging from the appreciation of the Massachusetts troops to which the Colonel has appended his name, it may be supposed that the Dick law has risen in his estimation.

### The Twilight of the Dolfs.

The conventional doll baby is being deposed in France by "a society woman of great elegance, whose face is as oval and delicate as her predecessor's was round and chubby. Her slim, bejewelled fingers have celluloid nails shaped like almonds and carefully manicured. Her eyes and lips are artistically 'touched up.' Her hair, teeth and other fascinations are in part detachable. She is well provided with rouge, powder, perfume, paddings and every requisite of fashionable beauty."

In this country, also, a doll's house revolution has occurred within the last few years, and on the whole ours seems the less ominous of the two, for the Teddy Bear, whatever his faults, is at all events a natural animal. Yet he excites grave fears in some quarters and has even been denounced by a minister of religion as a danger to the maternal instinct and an encourager of race suicide. On the other hand, a distinguished member of the French Academy, M. HENRI LAVE-DAN, moralizes on the innovation among his young compatriots with tranquil nonchalance. He does indeed admit that a grandmother of his acquaintance has been very much upset by it, and reports her as exclaiming quaintly: "Alas, my dear sir, there are no longer any children, and now there are not even to be dolls!" But M. LAVEDAN preserves his balance by doubting that this adult and adulterated usurper will long remain in power. He argues thus:

" After the first astonishment the children will surely feel embarrassed by these fine ladies with their airs of 'callers.' How will they get any fun out of them? By smashing them? They dare not do to to twould be like assaulting their own mothers or aunts. And how could they think of nursing them or putting them to bed? Besides, what are they to talk to them about? There would be no sense in telling them fairy tales or the 'improving kind of story-' Once upon a time there was a little girl as good as an image."

The ways of young imagination are obscure, however, and M. LAVEDAN'S scepticism seems sanguine rather than convincing. An argument quite as forcible might have been made up beforehand to prove the speedy downfall of the Teddy Bear.

The tendencies suggested by this instance of the French child toward the artificially elegant, and of the American toward untamed nature, are not discordant with the historical circumstances of the two countries. And if it excites surprise that European children, who are said to be less precocious than ours, seek a playmate of more complex and less juvenile character than a "Teddy" it must be remembered that they perhaps find a vast deal of novelty in "bossing" a

For our youngsters that amusement hardly retains the bloom of the untried. and if their taste in play seems less progressive the reason may be that they are more advanced in life. At all events, their choice in this case is undoubtedly the more strenuous, and the instinctive spirit which leads the American babe holdly to take in hand, and when necessary to lay across its little knees, in those plays which are all preludes of real life, the simulacrum of such a wild impulsed and rampageous original as the Ursus theodoricus, strikes us, in spite of the minister's pessimism, as a distinctly hopeful civic symptom.

# A Case of Diplomatic Immunity.

The arrest by a London policeman of Captain CLOMAN'S chauffeur a day or two ago is interesting. The imposition of a fine of \$60 by the local magistrate upon the offender is both interesting and significant. Captain CLOMAN'S invocation of "diplomatic immunity" is regrettable. Taken altogether, however, the central incident and its circumstances furnish food for mighty timely thought.

Captain CLOMAN, it appears, is the Military Attaché of the United States Embassy at the British court. As such he is entitled to certain courtesies and favors and indulgences highly prized by their beneficiaries and greatly envied by outsiders. By the same token he is under peculiar and most imperative obligations, not only in his private capacity as a gentleman but in his official capacity as a representative of the United States, to exhibit the most punctilious deference to the laws and customs of the nation to which he is accredited.

Governments accord these privileges on a strictly poetic understanding. Just as the management of high priced grand opera sets out banquets of papier maché fowls and roasts for the dukes, princesses, villains, fairies and so forth of the cast, with \$15 a week Ganymedes handing around property nectar to the tuneful company, so do the Chancelleries of Europe and America bestow "free pratique" upon the envoys and attachés of foreign nations, never imagining for a moment that even the most foolish and inexperienced will take the "layout" seriously. The idea is a survival of the Middle Ages; the forms belong to the burlesque; the verbal assurances and interchanges are mere façons de parler. At bottom the understanding is that we all offer privileges which nobody expects any one else to utilize and that every one with intelligence enough to get into the comedy will imbibe its spirit without waiting for a

nudge from the constabulary. If it be true, as the reports indicate, that Captain CLOMAN'S chauffeur was violating the local laws, our Military Attaché should have been the last man in the world to plead"diplomatic immunity." On the contrary, he had every reason to be thankful for so easy an issue from such a discreditable complication. It seems to us, in fact, that the United States, which, owing to certain more or

less vulgar adulation of foreign diplomats on the part of the so-called smart set, has come to be the chief sufferer in this particular, should be especially anxious to set up a standard of selfrespecting conduct. By that means our Government will put itself in a position

to proceed with dignity at home. "Diplomatic immunity" has abused more impudently in this country than elsewhere throughout the world. We should welcome an opportunity to declare ourselves upon the side of

From Oyster Bay comes a most encouraging report that the President is having a vacation. No one goes to Sagamore Hill unless peremptorily summoned. warning that Mr. ROOSEVELT needed rest and seclusion is religiously heeded. An occasional sociologist wanders up to the gates by special invitation and members of the tennis cabinet look in for a game, but public business is not allowed to trench en the Presidential vacation. Riding, boating, camping, punching the bag, contemplation and sound sleep are doing wonders for Mr. ROOSEVELT. He has never enjoyed a vacation so much. The meditative life has made a captive of him. When he emerges in the third week of August to deliver an oration at Provincetown he will be in prime physical condition.

A different report comes from Murray Bay. Secretary Tapt's vacation is all work and no play. He went to his St. Lawrence retreat to play golf, fish and loaf in preparation for an arduous political tour of the West and a voyage to the Philippines to inaugurate the first National Ass The Secretary arrived at Murray Bay with an armful of despatch boxes, a typewriter and a secretary. He was to be on the golf links at least half the day, sleep eight hours at night and swing in a hammock all the afternoon. By rising at six he hoped to do some Department business and attend to his correspondence as a Presidential candidate before breakfast. But Mr. TAFT is not having a bully time, like his chief at Oyster Bay. The typewriter is clicking far into the night, the Washington wire is hot with Department queries, the Secretary's mail is enormous, and rough drafts of the speeches in the West have to be made. Mr. Tarrhas no time to bait a hook, and the grass is growing rank on his golf course. By the middle of the month he must be off for Columbus, where he is to open his Presidential canvas with a keynote speech.

The Secretary is a horse for work, but the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Presidential Candidates had better keep

Professor F. E. JAFFA, after putting som students of Berkeley on a diet of peanuts, reports that ten cents worth of the goobers contain more than twice the protein and six times the amount of energy embraced in a porterhouse steak. The essential question arises whether the peanut bulk is to be masticated à la FLETCHER or to be gulped according to WILEY.

## Nation and State.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -Sir: There s no case in our reports of greater instructive value-especially to Governor Glenn and his onfrères-than that of the State ex rel. Mc-Cready vs. Colonel Hunt. Court of Appeals. South Carolina (2 Hill, 1; 282). The question of "allegiance" as to State

and Union is nowhere so greatly argued by counsel and clearly decided by the court. The Legislature of South Carolina passed in act calling for a new and special oath of

allegiance to the State. McCready, elected a First Lieutenant, refused to take this special oath, and his commission was therefore refused by Colonel Hunt. He applied for a mandamus. Presiding Judge Johnson held that the act

violated the State Constitution. Judge O'Neall held that it violated both the national and the State Constitutions, and that allegiance to the Union was paramount to that due to the State. Judge Harper sus-

This truly great case, decided in 1834 in South Carolina, in the red heat of Nullification days, is respectfully commended to the attention of Governors Glenn, Comer et al., and to publicists generally.

JOSEPH CULBERTSON CLAYTON. NEW YORK, August 7.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A study of the causes underlying certain failures in reenforced oncrete structures makes it imperative oin the patching be done on concrete work until the spot eeding it have been passed on by a duly authorized inspector ought to be embodied in all mur building codes. Such a rule would be bound to result in better and more careful concrete work and at the same time eliminate a most fruitful

It is customary to patch all defective spots concrete beams, girders, slabs, columns, &c., as oon as the forms or moulds are removed, in order to cover up those defects, caused either by carele workmen or by chance, which it seems almost im ible to eliminate where exposed surfaces are concerned and a very smooth finish is desired.

The common procedure when upon the removal of the forms the under side of the beam shows spot where the concrete falls to properly surround the reenforcing rods is to patch them immediately, thus making it impossible to tell just how bad the defect is, as the exterior shows only the surface of

he patched spot. How a rule such as the one outlined would w out in actual practice is shown by our experience since we adopted a similar one some years ago according to which absolutely no patching is a lowed to be done on concrete work immediately after it is stripped of its forms until it has been thoroughly examined and passed by our own inspectors. The result has been that every one of our superintendents, foremen and other workmen realizes that the work done under their supervision or by them is subject to a minute scrutiny, and in con sequence the character of the work has risen co siderably above what it was before the aforemen e was adopted. In concrete work as in nto consideration. This is a factor which is often overlooked, particularly in building construction A consideration of it and the taking of certain omitant precautions will not fall to yield ex-

The building contractor can least of all afford to ake chances in his work, and a careful study of the characteristics of those in his employ is one of the chief factors which will tend to result in the absolute safety of his work and the consequent enhancement NEW YORK, August 3.

# The Ladylike Hudson.

TO THE LOITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A gentleman called my attention recently to the advertisement of one of the Hudson River steamboat companies, and it seems to me rather too good for THE SUN to miss. It ran in buge letters, "The Queen of Rivers, the Lordly Hudson." How's that for a mixing of NEW YORK, August 7.

A Dream of the Palace of Peace.

Who builds the palace grand And asked him much, and asked him much About the work on hand. Why do you nail the roof so tight Upon the walls so neat!

I dreamed I met the architect

Why are the windows made so small? in truth it seems a sin. "So love can't fly, so love can't fly

When delegations meet

Why do you build the basement well "The janitor, the janitor Will have to have the best."

MCLANDBURGE WIL

BOSTON IN A SERIOUS LIGHT.

BOSTON, Aug. 7 .- The fiscal condition of the city of Boston is under investigation by a special commission and some progress is being made in codifying organic laws with a view to charter revision. Administrative reorganization will doubtless proceed in some respects, as it might in any city with an unduly large debt, by providing for the annual creation of less bonds than are retired; but Boston has special perplexities not often met elsewhere. A policy of nonannexation has kept independent a large number of communities virtually suburbs Metropolitan districts of various limits for the several public departments are served by State commissions under direct control of the Legislature, while the city of Boston proper retains autonomy over similar services. Thus a continuous population of about 1,300,000, radiating ten miles or more from its centre, has a complex government based on no scientific principle, and administered both wastefully and, in assessm

inequitably. For certain purposes appropriations an bond issues are authorized, and administrative officers appointed and confirmed by a Governor, Council and Legislature representing the whole State. Communities therefore which pay no part of the taxes and claim no direct interest in the improvements or services have the same vote on metropolitan bills as on genera State measures. It would perhaps not be strictly fair to remark that representation without taxation is "tyranny," but it is certain that the expenditure of money and the creation of debt under this system has given city officials in Boston proper the opportunity to defend their part in bringing about the city's financial condition by asserting that a large part of the debt was incurred by the Legislature and that they had nothing to say about it. "Greater Boston" is not self-governing.

No one official body being held respon for the formulation and execution of a financial policy, authorization of outlays and bond issues has been given by a committee of the Legislature substantially as requested by any metropolitan board. Millions have been included in budgets (if a bill so drawn can be dignified by the name of budget) upon a few minutes talk by a chairman of a commission, almost without delay, debate, investigation or corroborative testimony. Practice so lax might grow up under any form of government, but it is commonly believed that the Massachusetts system tends to encourage extravagance by imposing on those who spend the money no responsibility to the people who pay the taxes. By the division of departments, Boston

proper having its own, the outer zone its own, and in some cases the cities and towns of the district theirs, efficiency and economy are sacrificed. The metropolitan park department, for example, maintains as re quired by civil service rules a permanent force, no member of which can be laid off except for cause after a hearing. So does the park department of the city of Boston This payroll must be held at a figure not too far above the minimum demand, so as to avoid paying idle men, and when work is heavier extra employees must be taken on. which is costly, green men out of a job not doing as much for what they get as regulars. If the two park departments were amalgamated a larger aggregate payroll could be maintained, since by distributing the squads to any part of either area the work might happen to require, the proportion of "extra" labor could be reduced One commission with one set of salaries would represent a further economy Separate health departments in the com munities of the district, too, are mediæval Of what avail is it for Boston to establish a hospital for consumptives, with clinics and patrols, if Cambridge, Malden and Somerville, whose citizens mingle freely with paratus also would be much more effectively and economically managed for the whole metropolis than piecemeal. The Boston police have for years been under a State appointed commission, but the suburban municipalities still have their own

Boston, with 600,000 people, is taxed to maintain water, sanitary, police, fire, paving and lighting for a downtown district used by 1,300,000 people. A resident of one of the Charlestown wards of Boston, whose business is in State street, is taxed on his dwelling, and the local Charlestown stores and banks which he supports are taxed to maintain Charlestown improvements and also to maintain downtown Boston improvements. His partner, who lives in Somerville, is taxed to keep up local Somerville services but not to provide protection downtown in Boston. Thus the burden of taxation on real estate, whether for dwellings or for industry and business in Boston is disproportionately heavy

Many of the most influential business men whose property in the commercial district is assessed for a great part of the city's levy, live in suburbs, and the city is deprived of their participation in its govern-

There is local prejudice in the cities and towns against giving up their autonomy and this might break out violently in Boston if an attempt were made to metropolitanize any Boston department now controlled in School street. Is real fiscal reform, however, possible without some step in that direction? The members of the Legislature from the metropolitan district might by virtue of election to that body sit as metropolitan commissioners, just as the Boston Aldermen sit as Suffolk county commissioners, and exercise the mone

If the water, park and sewer-commis sions could be confirmable by and subject to such a metropolitan commission of legislators and their jurisidetion extended t Boston proper, this would be a step toward genuine home rule, and the only serious objection likely to be raised would be that of the Boston Democrats, who enjoy owing to their preponderance a practical monop ly of that burrowing for sewers which is so far underground as to baffle ordinary inquisitiveness. If the plan worked we the police might be added as a conce by the outer zone to Boston's self-denial in giving up the sewers. The health and fire departments could follow.

If Boston cannot annex the metropolitan district the metropolitan district may have to annex Boston.

### Police Patrolling Too Often Loafing. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The Police

Commissioners are crying for men. At least 500 more are asked for, and I think the demand reason able, for the police force of Greater New York At the same time, why does the department no

devise some plan to make men on post perform their duty? What right have two or three police men to stand on a corner for an hour chatting with men to stand on a control of a lower chartening with each other and neglecting their beats? It is a com-mon sight in the quieter districts on the upper West Side of the city, where so many flat robberies have taken place and assaults on young girls have

There is too much corner loaning in groups of two r three, and I am constantly a witness to such. NEW YORK, August 5. A TAXPATER.

Enicker-Do you water the plants while your wife Bocker-Yes, I leave the windows open when t

THE BONES OF POCAHONTAS.

An Archmologist's Reasons for Believing That They Have Been Found. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Supple nenting the cable despatch, which appeared in Tary Sun July 22 regarding the discovery of a skeleton at Gravesend, England, sup-posed to be that of the Indian Princess Pocahontas, W. Russell, rector's warden of the parish Church of St. George, has sent word to Charles W. Kohlsaat, commissioner-gen eral of the Jamestown exposition, that he does not believe the skeleton is that of the til fated daughter of Powhatan. Mr. Russel

The finding of the skeleton has set another of or occasional Pocahontas stories going the rounds of the papers, but I am not going to let my old register be knocked out of it by penny a liners. I think is quite ridiculous to attempt to make out that the skeleton found near the White Post tavern is that of Pocahontas. The indecency of the burial, only eighteen inches under the soil and face downward. seems to me conclusive evidence that this is the skeleton of some stray wastling who probably came by her death by foul means very much more re-cently. Why are not other bones as easily found if the place was a portion of the churchyard. There are numbers of impossible people in Graves end who are Pocahontas mad and are ready to connect her with any skeleton or group of bones that may turn up. The old velium parish register says definitely that Pocahonias was buried in the chancel of St. George's (parish) Church, and I see no reason to try to beguile the public with wild and improbable yarns all implying that the register recorder

There is, however, a fairly strong brief for the theory that the bones are those of Pocaduring building operations which are being carried out by Messrs. Clements and Hotter in Mayfield road, Gravesend, some human remains were disinterred. A fence was being erected just at the rear of the Campbell Arms when a workman engaged in sinking a post hole came on what was apparently a stone. His pick penetrated it, and then to his astonishment he discovered it was a skull. The surrounding earth was carefully removed, and gradually a human frame was brought to light. It was but a few yards from the old path which ran through to Lennox road, close to a hedge, and lay with its feet facing the northeast. A peculiar feature was that the body was interred face downward in a grave eighteen inches deep.

Since then some interesting facts have come to light with regard to the bones. The skull was taken to London and submitted to an expert. Nothing was said as to place or manner of discovery, but the question was put: "Can you tell me whether this is the skull of an Englishman?" "No. Undoubtedly it is the head of an Indian and a woman," was the reply. The expert added in answer to a query as to the shape of the head: "She had more morals than the people of that was broad and the princess people of the as a position of the property as the when a workman engaged in sinking a post

Bearing in mind the tradition that Princess Pocahontas was buried in ground adjoining the White Post Inn, Mr. Tucker, builder, of Dover road, Northfleet, into whose hands the remains had fallen, proceeded to make a detailed search at the spot where the remains were uncovered, and chief among his discoveries were several nails, some two inches in length, very much incrusted: three pieces of what is either pearl or iridescent glass, a thin tile, backed with Roman cement; a small piece of very heavy metal, an ornament made from what is evidently gold wire, in figure of eight pattern, and a piece of black hair. Several other small bones were uncovered, and two pieces of very much decayed wood. All the present circumstances point to the remains being those of the famous Virginian Princess. Some may be inclined to doubt the authenticity of the remains owing to the place of burial being somewhat removed from the present White Post Inn, and because the parish register, book 5, contains the following entry: Bearing in mind the tradition that Princess

ing entry

1676, March 21st-Rebecca Wrolfe, wyffe Thomas Wrolfe, gent., a Virginia lady borne, v buried in ye Chancell. In "Ye True Narrative of Ye Princess Poca-hontas," by Charles Thomas, however, the following explanation occurs:

There may be a clerical error here in the Christian name of Wrolfe, who was always known in Virginia as John Rolfe. Tradition, however, gives the place " " of her burial on the site, or in the close vicinity of the thon disused old parish church of St. Marie's, which stood on the land now occupied by the White Post Inn, and adjoining houses in Pelham foad, on the way to Perry street, if this were so the body, for sanitary reasons, was carried thither after a service in the chancel of the chapel of St. George, which was destroyed by fire in 1727, and which edifice immediately preceded the parish church of to-day (1985).

parish church of to-day (1895).

It must also be remembered that the Princess died of smallpox, and in those days people succumbing to that dread disease were always interred on the very outskirts of a churchyard. Although 290 years have elapsed since the "Virginia lady borne" was interred within the boundaries of the borough, it is not surprising (should these bones prove to be hers) to find them in such an excellent state of preservation, as they were in soil of a gravelly character above chalk, and it of a gravelly character above chalk, and it of a gravelly character above chalk, and it was in similar surroundings that the bones of a large number of Roman soldiers were recently disinterred on the main road leading out of Folkestone. One reason for the present fragments being so clase to the surface is the fact that a pathway has for years existed over the graves, and being upon a slight slope, the soil has been considerably washed away.

way.

When the skeleton was being unearthed Mr. Hotter jokingly remarked: "Why, here is Pocahontas." Knowing that Mr. Tucker dabbled in phrenology, he offered him the skeleton, but for a week it lay in the shed before being removed, despite several requests to come and take "the confounded thing away."

CHARLES FREDERICK STANSBURY. NEW YORK, July 6.

### The Palace of Unrest. From the New York Commercial

For some reason the pictorial reproduction of the plan for the new Palace of Peace at The Hague do not excite wild and enthus astic commendation from the architects It may be wrong to look a gift horse in th mouth vet one cannot quite understand why the design for this great peace palace should fall so far short architecturally of the rare beauty and appropriateness of many of the Carnegie libraries. As the gift of one and the same man it might be supposed that equal artistic taste would be displayed in the two kinds of structures. The elevation of the proposed structure has been likened that of a railway terminal station. The similarity is certainly striking, but we have seen terminal stations that were architectulines. We trust that the architectural censo. will get in his good work before the structure is realized in materials of permanence

# Discarded War Stores in Potomac

From the Washington Post.

"We found many curious things while dredging
n the Potomac," said Captain Charles Vivian, who had charge of the dredging work in the Potomac when the channel between the arsenal and the when the channel between the arsenal ang the Potomac flats was deepened, "but perhaps the most interesting that was brought up by the big machine was a box about two feet square. It was securely sealed and was water tight. When we opened it we found a dozen or more three inch shells, and upon drawing the cap of one of them we found the models as they as the day it was placed there. the powder as dry as the day it was placed there Just to see if it was still in good condition we tried one, and the shell exploded with as much force as

After examining the shells closely we discov ered that they were ammunition evidently dis carded during the civil war. Captain Lawson took
the whole lot out into the open and get them off,
and every one was still able to do a lot of damage
had it been aimed in the right direction. We pulled
up many other interesting relics of the war—old bugles, rifles, swords, &c. I have several of at home now. home now.
"I don't know what would have happened had our

it would have the day after it was made

big dredging machine struck the box of shells in such a manner that they would have been exploded and I tremble sometimes to think of what migh Potomac, no doubt, is full of just such things."

#### Prohibitive. He knows the art of catching fish

From A clear down to Z: He knows the lure for everything That ever swam the se From Maine to Mexico Where fish and fishers congregate He don't already bacw.

He knows the time for every fish in every latitude; He knows just how to cook 'em right-Boiled, fried, broiled, baked or stewed. He knows the proper stage of tide ding you would catch them.

If ebbing you would not His tackle is for anything From sharks 'way down to eets He has no end of costly rods. Of hooks and lines and reels. To go a fishing now and then Would meet his dearest wish But he can't afford to buy the bait-

### THE MORSE ALPHABET

Aifred Vall Is Said to Have Been the Inventor of the Dot and Dash System

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir. In The Sun of August 5 appeared an article entitle "Where the Telegraph Began," which contained a few errors. I beg the courtest

your columns to correct them. Primarily Professor Morse's experiments telegraphy had been prosecuted not at Speed well, Morristown, N. J., but at the University of the City of New York, at which he was professor of painting, and from which 837. Alfred Vail returned to the universal in September of the same year for the parpose of beginning a course of study prepared tory to entering the ministry.

Shortly after his return Vail became into ested in the exhibitions which Morse was giving of his crude wooden apparatus with a legree of success which to the mind of Alfred Vail suggested a much larger range of effort. The result was a contract entered into by and between the two men, whi was signed September 23, 1837.

By the terms of this contract my father Alfred Vail, "covenants to construct and put into successful operation, at his own proper cost and expense, one of the tele-graphs of the plan and invention of the party of the first part (Morse) \* \* and also agrees to devote his time and personal ser-vices faithfully to this object without charge. his remuneration to be a part ownership the letters patent, for which he was also

My father and Morse at once went to Mor-ristown, to which place Morse had not better been. In the home of my grandfather Judge Stephen Vail, Morse was mide well

been. In the home of my graudfather, Judge Stephen Vail, Morse was made welcome as a guest, remaining there several months. In gratitude for this courtesy (while Alfred Vail was producing the real telegraph—that known as the "dot and dash system," in which Morse had no part what ever), he painted the portraits of my grand father and grandmother, which I regret matter than an anterior of the matter and grandmother and grandmother and so involving a top which it could communicate intelligence, but in so laborious and slow a manner as to be of little more value than as a toy. Morse's efforts to improve this method, involving a vocabulary which had to be translated upon receipt, was futile. An entirely new system and mechanism, "the dot and dash," all of which was solely the invention of Alfred Vail, with a conscientiousness characteristic of his nature, believed that in producing an absolutely new and distinct system of telegraphy he was simply carrying out the provisions of the contract he had entered into with Morse. Concerning his invention, the recording receiver, Vail once wrote:

I am the sole and only inventor of this mode of

have gotten a patent for it.

The owner and editor of The Sun at this time was Mr. Moses Y. Beach, a personal friend of my father and grandfather, and in The Sun of September 25, 1857, will be found an article written by Mr. Beach entitled "Honor to Whom Honor Is Due," in which he wrote:

which he wrote: which he wrote:

Alfred Vail entered into these experiments with his whole soul, and to him is Professor Morse indebted, quite as much as to his own wif, for his ultimate triumph. It was Alfred Vail who invented the far famed alphabet, and he, too, was the inventor of the instrument that bears Morse's name. But whatever he did or contrived went cheerfully to the great end. Alfred felt rewarded in seeing the gradual accomplishment of the dream.

gradual accomplishment of the dream.

Any one sufficiently interested in this subject to take the trouble will find in the April.

1888, issue of the Century Magazine an exceedingly interesting sketch of Alfred Validation ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., August 5.

### CAPTURED CIVIL WAR FLAGS. Proposal That the States Deposit Then in a National Museum

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The suggestion was made some time ago that i would be a magnanimous act on the part of the various States to return the battle flags captured by the Union and Confederate soltiers during the course of the civil war. One may have an earnest desire to see th end of sectional feeling and still object to the surrender of the flags to the respective States

surrender of the flags to the respective States of either the North or South. But if the flags were given in charge of the national Government and placed in a beautiful building erected for the purpose, say in the national cometery at Arlington, the building to express within the limits of architecture the unity of our great republic, the idea would appeal strongly to all who long for the absolute obliteration of sectionalism.

The day on which the flags were to be transferred to the building could be madean occasion to emphasize the unity of our country. I believe the ceremony would create a living bond of sympathy between the sections which were separated for a brief period. And without desiring to introduce anything of a partisan nature, I might add that the assembling of the flags could be appropriately done during the term of office of President Roosevelt, because he is linked by blood to the South. I trust that this proposal may come under trust that this proposal may come unthe eye of some one of national promine who may be inspired to take immediate sit to carry out my idea, at least in its essenfeatures.

EDMUND L. PENDLETON MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., August 6.

"T. R." in August, 1707.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In the 1707 edition of Prior's Poems (published just 200 years ago this month) I come across the So practie'd Thief oft taken ne'er afraid. Forgets the Sentence, and persues the Trade

Tho' yet he almost feels the Smoaking Brand. And sad T. R. stands fresh upon his Hand. This appears in "A Satire in Imitation o the Seventh Satire of Juvenal." Is it another instance of poetical prescience?

B. P. For Oil Industry of California. H. B. Guthrey, the well known Coalings oil opera

fornia's oil industry: 3,120 wells at \$8,000 each 1.000 miles of main at \$6,000 a mile 10 new tank steamers building at \$350,000 3,500,000

2,000,000

12,000,000

50,000,000

each... 25,000,000 barrels of open and covered storage at eight cents a barrel cents a barrel 500 tank cars at \$1,200 each 300 oil cars building at \$1,200 each. 35 refineries, estimated value..... Oil land and "properties in use"

Labor expense for the last five years. Total value of California's oil industry \$135,970,000 Photographs of Chinese Royalty.

From the Shanghai Mercury. The Chinese police department in Tlentsin re-ported to the Viceroy H. E. Yuan Shih-k'al to the effect that copies of the photographs of T. M. the

Empress Dowager and the Emperor and other high officials in Pekin and the provinces have been publicly exhibited for safe in the streets, which was and the other high officials. This practice, if un checked, will breed contempt toward the imperia requests Viceroy Yuan to prohibit the disrespectfu ractice. H. E. Yuan, in compilance with the request, has issued proclamations forbidding the sale of the photographs of the Empress Downger.

Onions, 400 Bushels to the Acre. From the St. Louis Republic.

The onion harvest on Missouri Point, across the river from Alton, began in carnest yesterday and will be in progress several weeks.

Fifty or seventy-five acres are planted to onlens and farmers say they have been offered \$ 25

bushel for their crop. The yield will be 400 bushels H. I. Mintert, who has the largest onion 'pate seven or eight acres, because of the labor

straches to the cultivation of ontons, athough they are the best paying crop he can plant.

Knicker-So Jones is going to establish a societi for the prevention of cruelty to men? Bocker-Yes, it is simply a shame the way torses come in late on them. Cautious.

Stella-Did the Count propose\*
Bella-No. he said with the present investigation craze he was afraid of American securities The Variety.

icker-Has Jones horse sense